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NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REVIEW

7 July 1985

Letters

Deletions for the C.I.A.

To the Editor:

Thomas Powers's astute review of Stansfield Turner's important book "Secrecy and Democracy: The CIA in Transition" (June 16) chides the author for his "cheerful vagueness" about the "darker side of intelligence." Yet four paragraphs earlier in his review, Mr. Powers reports that the Central Intelligence Agency "insisted on more than 100 deletions from early manuscripts, and got all but three."

Surely it was the C.I.A. that censored Admiral Turner's efforts to give more explicit examples of the jiggery-pokery of clandestine operations.

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